

IN THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the claim changes made in the Amendment dated June 22, 2004, please further amend the claims as follows. The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:
 - means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;
 - means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer ~~in onto~~ the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;
 - means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and
 - means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.
2. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:
 - means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer ~~in onto~~ image data that has been entered so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;
 - means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

3. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be embedded in ~~added onto~~ each item of image data extracted;

means for embedding ~~adding~~ the transmission information in onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information embedded therein ~~added thereto~~ so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer ~~onto~~ in the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or re-compressing the compressed image data.

6. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in ~~onto~~ image data representing an image that has been read so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

7. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in ~~onto~~ image data representing an image that has been entered so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and
transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

8. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising:
a reading step, of reading an image and generating image data representing the image;
a storage step, of compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in a memory;
a transmitting step, of transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory; and
an embedding ~~adding~~ step, of embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in onto the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data after said reading step and before said storage step.

9. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:
reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;
extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;
determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be embedded in ~~added onto~~ each item of image data extracted;

~~embedding adding~~ the transmission information ~~in~~ onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information ~~added thereto~~ embedded therein so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

~~embedding adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer ~~in~~ onto image data representing an image that has been read so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

compressing the image data ~~in~~ onto which the transmission information has been ~~embedded added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or re-compressing the compressed image data.

12. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in onto the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in onto which the transmission information has been embedded ~~added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

13. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in onto the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

14. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be embedded in ~~added~~ onto each item of image data extracted;

means for embedding ~~adding~~ the transmission information in onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information ~~added thereto~~ embedded therein so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for embedding ~~adding~~ transmission information for a header or footer in onto the image data so that the transmission information and the image data form a single body of image data;

means for compressing the image data in which the transmission information has been embedded ~~onto which the transmission information has been added~~ and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or re-compressing the compressed image data.

17. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to in~~ which the transmission information is embedded.

18. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to in~~ which the transmission information is embedded.

19. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data relating to in which the transmission information is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data, wherein the compressed data ~~which~~ has been compressed according to a compression format identical to the compression format of the image data, ~~and transmitting this image data.~~

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data relating to in which the transmission information is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data without expanding or re-compressing it, wherein the compressed data ~~which~~ has been compressed

according to a compression format identical with the compression format of the image data;
~~and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing the image data.~~

22. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;
storing the compressed image data in a memory; and
detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded.

23. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;
storing the compressed image data in a memory; and
detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded.

24. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data in which ~~relating to the~~ transmission information is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data without expanding or re-compressing it for a header or footer, and transmitting the image data without expanding or compressing it.

27. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to in~~ which the transmission information ~~for a header or footer~~ is embedded.

28. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data in which ~~relating to the~~ transmission information ~~for a header or footer~~ is embedded.

29. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data in which ~~relating to~~ the transmission information is embedded.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for embedding ~~adding on~~ transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the compressed image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the compressed image data with compressed data ~~relating to~~ in which the transmission information is embedded, and transmitting the compressed image data without expanding or re-compressing it.